ment to allocate funds for repairing and developing of this part of the Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). National Highway No. 23 between Ranchi and Gumala is generally in traffic worthy condition. During 1988-89 to 1990–91, flood damage/special repair works costing Rs. 12.005 lacs and improvement works costing Rs. 511.80 lacs, were sanctioned in this stretch apart from the normal maintenance grant.

[*English*]

Operations of Foreign Companies

849. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has lifted certain restrictions on the operations of foreign companies in the count;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the additional investment and employment generation expected as a result of such measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Certain restrictions in respect of FERA companies have been relaxed as follows:–

i) To borrow money or accept deposit from persons resident in India.

ii) To accept appointment as agent or technical or management adviser in India of any person or company.

iii) To allow their trading mark to be used by any person or companies for consideration.

iv) To carry on in India any activity of a trading, commercial or industrial nature.

v) To acquire any undertaking in India carrying on any trade, commerce or industry or purchase the shares of any such company.

vi) To acquire, hold, transfer or dispose off by sale, mortgage, lease, gift settlement or otherwise any immovable property in India.

(c) It is not possible to make an estimate in regard to additional investment and employment generation owing to these relaxations.

Delimitation Commission

850. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a new Delimitation Commission for readjusting the Lok Sabha and State assembly constituencies;

(b) whether the rotations of reserved

constituencies will also be taken up by the Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this Commission is likely to start its work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c). Under the provisions of the Constitution, no delimitation can be undertaken until the relevant figures for the first census taken after the year 2000 have been published. The Constitution (Seventy–first Amendment) Bill, 1990, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha to provide for fresh delimitation of constituencies on the basis of the 1981 census figures without affecting the total number of seats allocated to various States. Further action can be taken only after the Constitution (Amendment) Bill is passed by the Parliament.

Strengthening of Handloom Sector

851. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to strengthen the handloom sector;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal to offer tenements sheds and some softloans to traditional weavers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India have launched a number of new Schemes in addition to the existing handloom schemes from the current financial year with the objective of strengthening the handloom sector.

(b) With a view to achieving an all round development of the handloom industry, Government of India have drawn up the following developmental schemes during the current financial year:–

a. Project Package Scheme for Handloom Weavers.

b. Integrated Handloom Villages Development.

c. Scheme for Margin Money for Destitute Weavers.

d. Modified Workshed–cum–Housing Scheme for Handloom Weavers.

e. Modified Thrift Fund Scheme for Handloom Weavers.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Government of India has been operating a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Workshed–cum–Housing Scheme" in which Central Subsidy is provided for construction of Workshed–cum–Houses. As per the revised scheme implemented from the current year, the unit cost has been revised upward, and provision for electrification and land cost has also been included in the unit cost.

Demands of Ex–Servicemen

852. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered afresh long pending various demands of the ex–servicemen; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken in the matter?